

Hanson, MA Area E
Camp Kiwanee, Indian Head Street
Area Data Sheet

<u>MHC</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Style/Form</u>	<u>Date</u>
111	Main House		Indian Head Street	Rustic	1907
112	Lodge		Indian Head Street	Tudor hip block	1903/07
113	Firehouse		Indian Head Street	altered gable block	1907
114	Boathouse		Indian Head Street	gabled block	1936
115	Log cabin		Indian Head Street	log cabin	1936
116	Pavillion		Indian Head Street	Rustic gabled block	1936
117	Balloon House		Indian Head Street	Rustic cabin	1936

FORM A - AREA
Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Assessor's #
54/9

USGS Quad
Hanson

Area
E

Form #
111-117

Town **Hanson**

Place

Name of Area **Camp Kiwanee Area**

Present Use **recreational**

Construction Dates **1907, 1936,
and ca. 1970**

Overall Condition **good**

Major Intrusions **none**

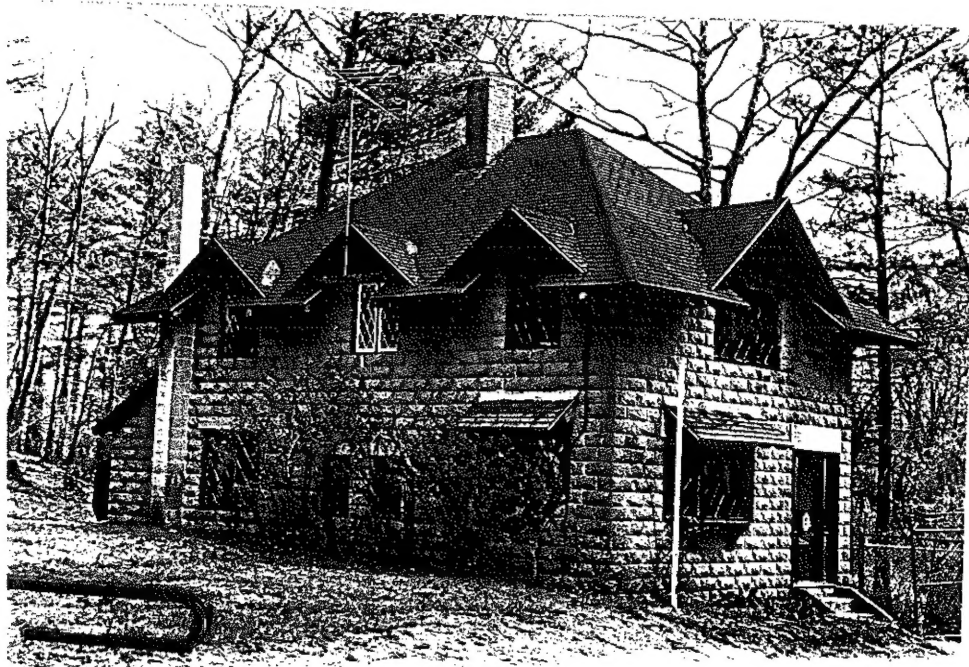
Acreage **sixty-four acres**

Recorded by **Dempsey/Driemeyer**

Organization **Hanson
Historical Commission**

Date **May 1996**

Sketch Map Attached.



AREA FORM

Camp Kiwanee Area, Hanson MA

DESCRIPTION See continuation sheet.

Camp Kiwanee is a 64-acre site positioned between Maquan Pond on its northeast and cranberry bogs to the south. Two narrow strips of property link the large central section to Indian Head Street on the west and Maquan Street on the northeast, with the lodge located at a distance from the road along the western entry to the property. The site is quite irregular in shape, narrower at the west where its buildings are clustered at the end of a narrow concrete road. The main house is located at the turn-around at the end of that road, with the larger cabins stretched along the ridge overlooking the pond, and on the opposite side of the road, where the fire house/garage is also located. Two camp clusters, each including a group of cabins and several support structures, are located to the northeast and to the south of the main grouping. The eastern wider section of the camp includes a wetland and a wooded area. The sandy beach of the pond have provided opportunities for swimming and boating. The high proportion of pines in the area have yielded a smooth bed of needles across most of the site.

HISTORIC NARRATIVE See continuations sheet.

Camp Kiwanee began as the summer home of Albert Burrage, the entrepreneur whose plants for the manufacture of porcelain components for electrical appliances and tin foil (see form J) and model village (see form I) bear the same name. This area, now measuring 64 acres, was first used by Burrage as a summer home known as the Needles, beginning before 1903. In 1907, a massive fire burned down the main house and the nearby stable, though the gate house or lodge still survives. A new house was constructed immediately and the stable was replaced by a building sources describe as a firehouse, built to allay family fears of another devastating fire. When his business interest in Hanson failed, Burrage sold the property to the Greater Boston Camp Fire Girls for use as a camp, who purchased it with \$24,000 supplied by Kiwanis International, giving rise to the camp's first name. Until 1936, these three buildings were the only ones enumerated on the property, with the house valued at \$16,000, the lodge house valued at \$2000, and the garage valued at \$1500.

REFERENCES

"History of Hanson," 1962

Walker Atlas of 1903.

Town of Hanson, Assessors Records, 1930-36, 1940-1975 at five year intervals.

Davies & Bibbins, Needles/Kiwanee Master Plan Report.

X Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. See NR Criteria Statement form attached.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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Boston MA 02125

Community Property Address
Hanson **Indian Head Street**

Form #

Area **Camp Kiwanee**

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION, continued.

The house is (#111) a large low shingled building with an L-shaped footprint. Its has a main front section measuring about sixty feet across and fifty feet in depth, with an original off-set rear ell of nearly fifty feet in length. The wide gable-roofed structure has a wrap-around porch supported by rustic trunk supports, with an octagonal pavilion at the water-side corner. In the center of the front roof slope is a large gabled dormer set into a wide cross gable. The new dining wing, added in 1961, is seventy feet in length. Both the lodge and the fire house/garage are constructed of rough-faced concrete block, with rectangular footprints; the gate house measures twenty-three by thirty-two feet, the fire station twenty-eight by forty-five feet. The well-preserved lodge (#112) has a hip roof with eaves broken by gabled wall dormers, with its entry into the side of its narrow facade. Most of its openings have diamond-paned casement widows, including bay windows for the front room. The more altered fire house (#113) is a wider gable-roofed building, with a wide opening and a small side entry topped by three windows in the gable on its facade. Its side elevations have openings on both the ground floor and the upper living story.

The six larger cabins constructed near to the main house are all of similar form and construction, measuring about sixteen by thirty feet with deep overhangs or porches, and occasionally with smaller wings. Entries are usually in the center of the long wall with windows centered on either side of them. The rustic theme continues in the rough-edged board siding on the cabins. A single open cabin is located near these larger cabins. On the attached map of the area these are labeled balloon house (#117), slated for demolition in the master plan, electric cabin, and cottage.

To the north and south of these buildings are clusters of cabins and other support buildings. The cabins sit on concrete blocks, and those to the north employ the rough-edged board siding while those to the south have drop siding. They were originally closed as a knee wall with screen all around but sections of screen have recently been enclosed. Each cluster has a concrete block gable-roofed bathhouse measuring twenty-two by twenty-four feet. The northern cluster has log cabin (#115) measuring sixteen by thirty feet with a sixteen by sixteen foot ell. It also has a "chalet," large versions of the cabins that retain their open screen side sits neighbor recently burned. Two chalets survive at the southern cluster. That cluster also has a pavilion (#116), measuring twenty-eight by sixty feet, a wide gabled block enclosing an large open room and heated with a field stone fireplace. At the water side, the boathouse (#114) is a long gable-roofed structure with four garage doors..

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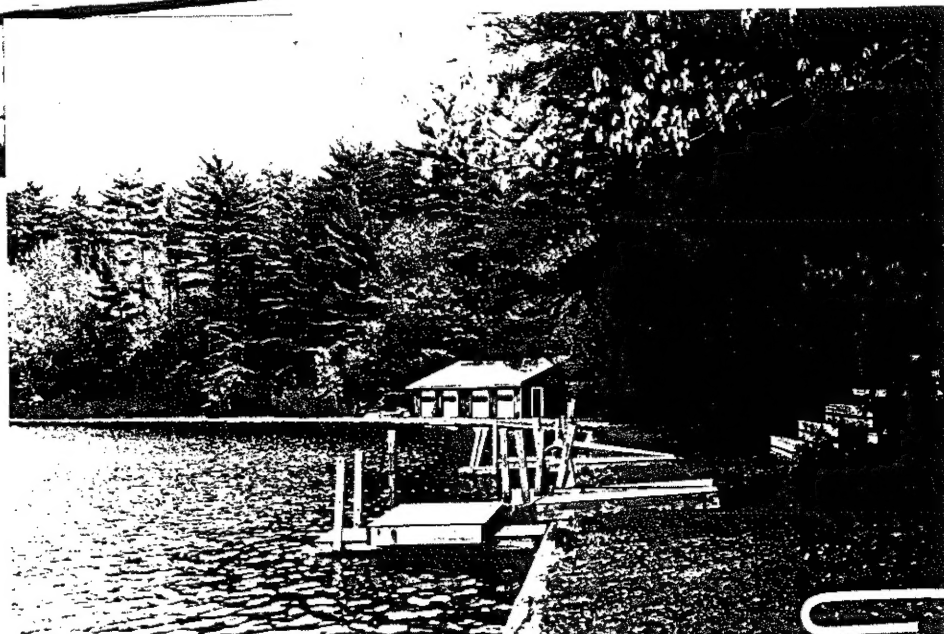
Community Property Address
Hanson Indian Head Street

Form # 111-117

Area Camp Kiwanee E

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE, continued.

In that year the camp facilities were greatly increased, with the addition of a number of structures that included the life guard camp (\$150), the hospital building (\$1000), the log cabin (\$800), the canteen (\$200), camp one (\$200), sleep camp (\$200), and open air camp (\$50). These names were retained for the next fifty years. Although they cannot now be set in one-to-one correspondence with surviving buildings, probably include the larger cabins, chalets, and pavilion, as they are now known, as well as the log cabin. It is likely, however, that Hanson informants of the Camp Fire Girls could be of assistance in re-linking these functions to existing buildings. Although some sources claim a 1960s date for these and the camp's cabins, assessors records suggest the cabins were constructed in the 1970s. The Town of Hanson purchased the camp in 1979 for \$225,000 and have recently completed a master plan for the site.



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Area **Camp Kiwanee E**



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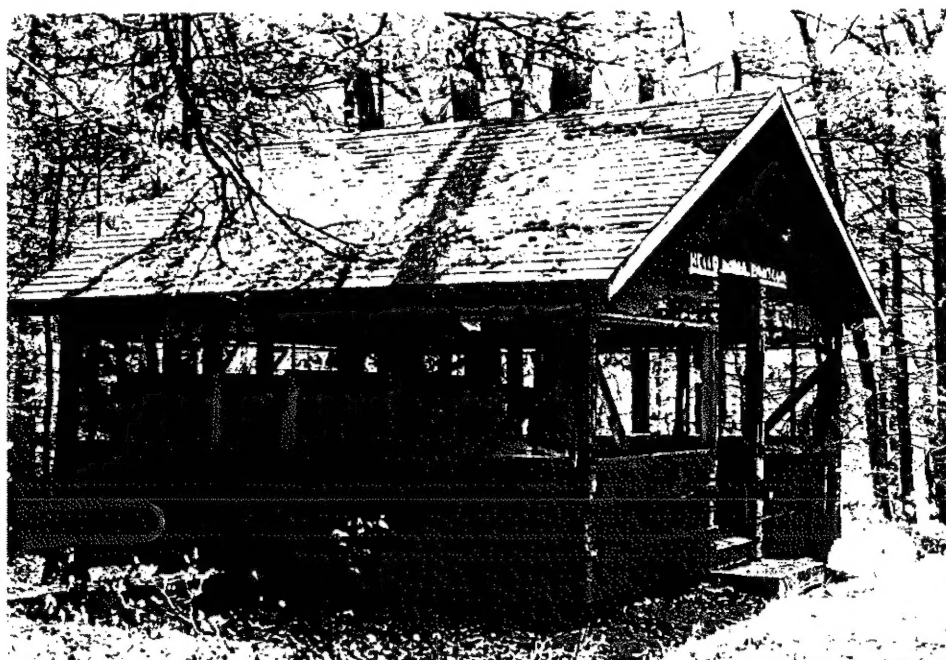
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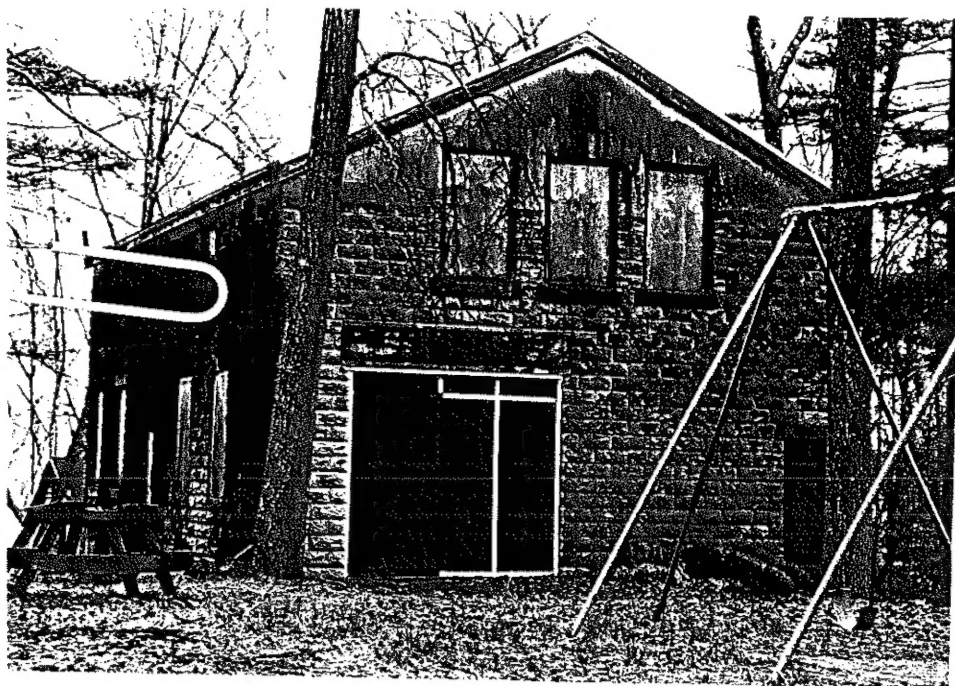
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Area 111 - 117
E

Form #

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form



Check all that apply:

☒ Individually eligible.

☐ Contributing to a potential district.

☐ Eligible only in a historic district.

☒ Potential historic district.

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Statement of Significance by **Dempsey/Driemeyer**.

The Camp Kiwanee area is significant as a cluster of summer resort-related buildings in the town of Hanson. In this area, resources survive related to Albert Burrage, an important town industrialist, as well as those added later when the site became a summer camp for Camp Fire Girls. Within one location, therefore, are resources related to two distinctive groups' patterns of summer vacationing. The Camp Kiwanee area meets criteria A and C at the local level and retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.